

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S6863–S6896*

**Measures Introduced:** Fifteen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2982–2996. **Page S6888**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 153, to promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–164)

S. 529, to establish a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards, to establish a national 3D Elevation Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–165)

S. 906, to improve the management of driftnet fishing, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 116–166)

S. 908, to provide for an equitable management of summer flounder based on geographic, scientific, and economic data and for other purposes. (S. Rept. No. 116–167)

S. 914, to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, and to require the establishment of a National Water Center. (S. Rept. No. 116–168)

S. 1148, to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to give preferential consideration to individuals who have successfully completed air traffic controller training and veterans when hiring air traffic control specialists, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 116–169) **Pages S6887–88**

**Measures Passed:**

**FUTURE Act:** Senate passed H.R. 2486, to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6865**

Scott (SC) (for Alexander) Amendment No. 1255, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6865**

**Merrill's Marauders Congressional Gold Medal Act:** Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 743, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the soldiers of the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly known as "Merrill's Marauders", in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service in the jungles of Burma during World War II, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S6895–96**

**Bumatay Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Patrick J. Bumatay, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Page S6877**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, December 5, 2019, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 9, 2019. **Page S6877**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6877**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6877**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, December 9, 2019, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Thursday, December 5, 2019, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, December 9, 2019. **Page S6896**

**VanDyke Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Lawrence VanDyke, of Nevada, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Page S6877**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Patrick J. Bumatay, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Page S6877**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6877**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6877**

**Sullivan Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of John Joseph Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Department of State. **Page S6877**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Lawrence VanDyke, of Nevada, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Page S6877**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6877**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6877**

**Hahn Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services. **Pages S6877–78**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of John Joseph Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Department of State. **Page S6878**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6877**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6877**

**Skipwith Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith, of Indiana, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior. **Pages S6878–83**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services. **Page S6878**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6878**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6878**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 68 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 383), Richard Ernest Myers II, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina. **Pages S6865–73**

By 76 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. EX. 384), Sherri A. Lydon, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina. **Page S6873**

By a unanimous vote of 89 yeas (Vote No. EX. 385), Robert M. Duncan, of Kentucky, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2025. **Pages S6873–77**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S6887**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S6888–90**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S6890–94**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S6886–87**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S6894–95**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S6895**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S6895**

**Record Votes:** Three record votes were taken today. (Total—385) **Pages S6873, S6877**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:57 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, December 9, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6896.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### NATIONAL DEFENSE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

**Committee on Armed Services:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine strategic threats, ongoing challenges, and National Defense Strategy implementation, after receiving testimony from John C. Rood, Under Secretary for Policy, and Lieutenant General David W. Allvin, USAF, Director for Strategy, Plans and Policy, Joint Staff, both of the Department of Defense.